

From: [Mueller, Brian](#)
To: alan.cherepon@tceq.texas.gov
Cc: [Phillip Winsor](#)
Subject: Arsenic in soil and groundwater due to past pesticide use
Date: Tuesday, July 08, 2014 1:46:00 PM

Good afternoon Mr. Cherepon

I was given your name by Jerry Collins as the contact person at TCEQ for questions relating to arsenic contamination from pesticides. I am an Remedial Project Manager responsible for the investigation of the Falcon Refinery Superfund Site near Ingleside, Texas. During the course of installing and sampling monitor wells at the site, we have discovered that a number of the wells on site have arsenic at levels above the MCL. These wells are all shallow and the depth to water is at the most 5 feet. We have sample analysis for soils from the wells above the water table. The soil samples have shown that only sample is above the Texas background level for arsenic. I have viewed old aerial photos taken from the 1950s and 1960s prior to the refinery being built that appear to indicate that a portion of the site was cultivated. I have noted that these are the areas that have arsenic above the MCL. I would like to know if it is possible to determine if the arsenic in the site soils and ground water is from the use of pesticides on site, related to the refinery operations, or naturally occurring. Any information about analytical methods/tests to determine this would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to call me with any questions. Also note that Mr. Phillip Winsor of your agency is also working with EPA on the site.

Thanks

Brian W Mueller RPM
EPA R6 Superfund
214 665-7167



9596932